

# The Natural Attributes of God

## Introduction:

God reveals Himself to man through His attributes. This is because we cannot ever fully comprehend His essence. Thus, for man, it is difficult to distinguish between the attributes and the essence of God.

The attributes of God are those essential, permanent, and distinguishing characteristics which may be affirmed of His being.

Another definition says the attributes of God are those perfections of His divine being which are declared in Scripture or are visibly exercised by Him in His works of creation and redemption.

There have been many attempts to classify the Attributes of God. They generally fall into two classifications: "Natural" and "Moral".

The Natural Attributes of God are:

Unity  
Trinity  
Omniscience  
Omnipotence  
Omnipresence  
Eternality  
Immutability  
Self-Existence

## I. The Omniscience of God

The means that God is "all knowing."

The Bible teaches that God is all knowing and absolutely perfect in knowledge, e.g. Romans 11:33; Job 37:16; II Chronicles 16:9; I John 3:20

Omniscience is "infinity in relation to intelligence."

### A. General Examples of God's Omniscience

1. It is All-inclusive — I John 3:20
2. God Knows From Eternity Past that which Shall Be Eternity Future — Acts 15:18; Isaiah 46:9-10
3. God Knows the Whole Plan of the Ages and Man's Part in it. — Ephesians 1:8-11

### B. Particular Examples of God's Omniscience.

1. God Knows All About His Creation. — Psalm 147:4; Matthew 10:29; Hebrews 4:13
2. God Knows Every Action of Man. — Psalm 139:2; Proverbs 15:3
3. God Knows Every Word Ever Spoken. — Psalm 139:4
4. God Knows Every Thought. — Psalm 94:11; 139:1; I Chronicles 28:9

## The Natural Attributes of God

5. God Knows Every Sorrow. — Exodus 3:7, Psalm 56:8

### II. The Omnipotence of God

This means that God is “all powerful.”

This attribute refers to God’s unlimited power by which He can bring everything to pass which He will. It does not mean He can do anything contrary to His will — if this were so, He would not be omnipotent, but impotent!

#### A. The Fact of God’s Omnipotence Stated.

Matthew 19:26; Job 42:2; Genesis 18:14; Jeremiah 32:17; Isaiah 40:26

#### B. Examples of God’s Omnipotence in Nature.

1. God’s Creative Power. — Genesis 1:1; Hebrews 11:3

2. God’s Sustaining Power. — Colossians 1:17

3. God’s Control of the Elements. — Psalm 107:25-29; Matthew 8:23-27; Nahum 1:5-6

#### C. Examples of God’s Omnipotence in Human Experience.

1. Joseph — Genesis 39:2, 3, 21 - Power to change circumstances.

2. Nebuchadnezzar — Daniel 4:19-33 - Power to change appearance.

3. Daniel — Daniel 6:22 - Power to shut mouths.

4. Pharaoh — Exodus 7:1-5 - Power over the elements.

5. Nations — Psalm 75:6-7 - Power over human events.

#### D. Examples of God’s Omnipotence in the Spirit Realm.

1. Holy Angels are Under His Control. — Daniel 4:35b

2. He Has Power Over Satan and Evil Spirits. — Job 1:12

#### E. God is in Control of His Own Power.

God may not always do what He is capable of doing. e.g. Daniel 3:17-18.

If He was bound to do all that He could all of the time, His power would not be under His control.

Omnipotence is “infinity in relation to energy.”

### III. The Omnipresence of God

This means God is “everywhere present.” It does not mean that God is everything (Pantheism) - because He is a Spirit, not something material.

It has been asked, “Where is God?” Where is He not? God is immense!

## The Natural Attributes of God

Omnipresence is “infinity in relation to space.”

### A. The Fact of God’s Omnipresence Stated.

Psalm 139:7-10; Acts 17:24-28; Matthew 28:20; Jeremiah 23:23-24; Proverbs 15:3; Hebrews 4:13.

God’s center is everywhere, His circumference nowhere.

### B. The Omnipresence of God Qualified.

We need to understand that God is not everywhere in the same sense. He is manifestly present in some places in a way in which He is not present in other places. For example:

1. God The Father is Especially Present in Heaven.
2. God The Son was Present in Palestine, and Is Now Present in Heaven.
3. God The Holy Spirit is the Present Representative of the Godhead throughout the Earth.

### C. The Practical Inferences of God’s Omnipresence.

1. Comfort. — Hebrews 13:5
2. Warning — Genesis 16:13

### D. God is Immense

By this we mean that God’s nature is without extension; it has intensity without extension; it is subject to no limitations of space, and contains in itself the case of space.

See: I Kings 8:27; Jeremiah 23:24; Psalm 104:2-3; 139:7; Isaiah 66:1

## IV. The Eternality of God

### A. What is “Eternity”?

Eternity means infinite duration. In the Word of God it has 3 uses:

1. Figurative — denoting antiquity.
2. Limited — denoting endless existence with a beginning. This is the case of man. Everlasting life has a beginning but no end.
3. Literal — denoting endless existence with no beginning. This only refers to God. Eternal life has no beginning and no end.

### B. The Eternality of God Stated.

#### 1. In the Scriptures

Genesis 21:33; Habbakuk 1:12; Psalm 90:2; Psalm 102:24-27; Isaiah 44:6; 57:15.

## The Natural Attributes of God

God is said to possess immortality — I Timothy 1:17; 6:16. This means there was never a time when God did not exist, or ever will be a time when He ceases to exist. (Isaiah 43:10)

2. In the Name of God (Jehovah).  
Exodus 3:14 — “I AM.” cf. Revelation 1:8

### V. The Self Existence of God

It is not correct to say that God is the cause of Himself. The existence of God does not have to be accounted for.

#### A. What we mean by the Self Existence of God?

We mean that God is absolutely independent of all else but Himself for the continuity and perpetuity of His being.

God is “self sustaining.”

He is the first cause, Himself uncaused.”

#### B. The Self Existence of God Stated.

Exodus 3:14; John 5:26; Romans 11:33-35.

The name Jehovah means “I Am that I Am”, or literally “The Self Existent One.”

### VI. The Immutability of God

This means that God is “Unchangeable.” It is that perfection of God where by He is completely and fully perfect in all His being and attributes, and thereby, ultimately unchangeable.

#### A. The Immutability of God Stated.

Malachi 3:6; I Samuel 15:29; Psalm 102:26, 27; James 1:17; Hebrews 13:8; Isaiah 40:28

#### B. God is the “I Am!”

He is not the “I Was”.

All Change must of necessity be for better or worse: God cannot change for the better since He is perfect, neither can He change for the worse. He can never be wiser or more holy than He is.